

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

**CRM-M No.27777 of 2020
Date of Decision : 19.11.2020**

Gurpreet Singh @ Gopi

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDIP AHLUWALIA

Present : Mr. Ramandeep, Advocate
for the Petitioner.

Mr. B.S. Sewak, Addl. Advocate General, Punjab
for the Respondent/State.

SUDIP AHLUWALIA, J. (ORAL)

The instant Petition has been filed under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure seeking Regular Bail on behalf of the Petitioner in case FIR No.154, dated 1st June, 2020, registered under Sections 363, 366-A of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and Section 4 of the Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 at Police Station Patran, District Patiala.

2. With reference to the noting made in the last order, Ld. State Counsel on instruction submits that it is confirmed that the Prosecutrix has gone back in the custody of her parents after being released from Nari Niketan.

3. In such circumstances, this Court is of the opinion that further detention of the Petitioner for an indefinite period at this stage is not

warranted since the investigation against him has already been completed and Challan submitted, and on the last date an undertaking on his behalf was also given by his Ld. Counsel that *“he shall not even try to contact the Prosecutrix so long as she does not attain the age of majority”*.

4. Trial in the case is yet to commence and is likely to take its own considerable time to conclude due to on-going Covid-19 Pandemic.

5. In the circumstances, without commenting upon the other merits of the case, at this stage, this Court is of the opinion that further detention of the Petitioner for an indefinite period is not justified. As such, he is ordered to be released on bail subject to the satisfaction of the Ld. Trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned.

7. Disposed off.

November 19, 2020

Dpr

(SUDIP AHLUWALIA)

JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No